

Docket No.: 1185.1060

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Shingo OHKAWA

Serial No. 09/916,297

Group Art Unit: 2875

Confirmation No. 8288

Filed: July 30, 2001

Examiner: B. Zeade

For: LIGHT GUIDE PLATE, SURFACE LIGHT SOURCE DEVICE AND DISPLAY

COMMENTS REGARDING STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Statement of Reasons for Allowance was forwarded in the Notice of Allowance mailed December 2, 2004.

MPEP §1302.14 states, in part:

Where specific reasons are recorded by the examiner, care must be taken to ensure that statements of reasons for allowance (or indication of allowable subject matter) are accurate, precise and do not place unwarranted interpretations, whether broad or narrow upon the claims. The examiner should keep in mind the possible misinterpretations of his or her statement that may be made and its possible estoppel effects.

The Examiner characterizes certain features of claims 1, 4, 7, 10. However, it is submitted that not all of the features listed by the Examiner are recited in all of the identified claims.

By way of example, the Examiner's Reasons refer to a plurality of ridge-like projections. However, claim 1 recites a great number of ridge-like projections. The Examiner's Reasons state that the ridge extends in a direction generally perpendicular to the first and that the great number of ridge-like projections extending in a direction generally parallel with the second direction. However, claim 10 does not recite these features. The discrepancies between the Examiner's Reasons and the recited claims are not necessarily limited to those specifically listed herein.

It is further submitted that the claims speak for themselves and should not be interpreted based on the Examiner's characterizations of same. It is also submitted that the claims provide their own best evidence as to the reasons for allowance.

In summary, it is submitted that the Examiner's Statement "raises possible misinterpretations... and possible estoppel effects" (M.P.E.P. §1302.14) and is therefore improper.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3-2-05

Michael J. Badagliacca Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 434-1500





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LETTER TO THE EXAMINER SUBMITTING CORRECTED AND/OR FORMAL DRAWINGS

Box ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON

Sir:

In accordance with the requirement in Notice of Allowability, mailed December 2, 2004, wherein the Examiner required that corrected and/or formal drawings be filed to overcome the objections to the drawings in the draftspersons' drawing review, applicant herewith submits eight sheets of corrected and/or formal drawings (FIGS. 1-2, 3A-3B and 4-10) for filing in the subject application.

It is respectfully requested that the corrected and/or formal drawings filed herewith be entered in the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3-2-05

By: Michael J. Badagliacca Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501